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UNCLAS KINSHASA 000610

SIPDIS

PARIS FOR AFRICA WATCHER

Department for AF/C, AF/RSA AND IO

FROM BRAZZAVILLE EMBASSY OFFICE

E.O.12958: N/A

TAGS: [PHUM](#) [CF](#) [CU](#)

SUBJECT: CONGO/B: UNCHR DEMARCHE UPDATES

REFS: A) STATE 49957 B) STATE 44494

(C) LEADER/SANDERS EMAILS 4/4-4/8/05

1. FOLLOWING UNCHR APRIL 4 DEMARCHE ON MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (MFA) NUMBER TWO AMBASSADOR SERGE BALE, AMBASSADOR EXECUTED ADDITIONAL DEMARCHES APRIL 5-8 WITH THE ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER (MINISTER OF JUSTICE ENTCHA-EBIA); PRESIDENTIAL PUBLIC RELATIONS COUNSELOR LEMBOUMBA (ALSO PRESIDENT'S SASSOU DAUGHTER AND KEY ADVISOR); PRIME MINISTER ISIDOIRE MVOUBA; AND VIA TELEPHONE TO FOREIGN MINISTER ADADA WHO WAS IN ROME ATTENDING THE POPE'S FUNERAL. IN ALL DISCUSSIONS, AMBASSADOR FURTHER PUSHED USG OBJECTIVES FOR A CONGO/B ABSENTION AND A POSITIVE OUTCOME AT THE UPCOMING UNCHR VOTE APRIL 14. IN ADDITION, ALL PARTIES WERE PROVIDED WITH COPIES OF THE TALKING POINTS AND RESOLUTION AS OUTLINED REFTELS, AND AMBASSADOR ALSO STRESSED THE NEED TO AVOID A NO-ACTION MOTION.

2. ALL INTERLOCUTORS APPRECIATED THE PROCEDURAL NATURE OF OUR POSITION, NOTED THE HISTORICAL RELATIONSHIP THAT EXISTED WITH THE SUBJECT OF THE RESOLUTION, AND HIGHLIGHTED THAT PRESIDENT SASSOU WOULD MAKE THE ULTIMATE DECISION ON THE VOTE. AMBASSADOR ALSO COVERED POINTS DURING DEMARCHES THAT POST PROVIDED TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR A/S NEWMAN'S CALL TO THE PRIME MINISTER. EMBASSY EXPECTS AN OFFICIAL ANSWER ON THE ROC'S POSITION EITHER APRIL 11 OR APRIL 12 AS TO WHETHER WE CAN EXPECT AN ABSENTION.

3. COMMENT: MESSAGES DO NOT ALWAYS GET PASSED WITHIN THE ROC GOVERNEMENT IN A TIMELY MANNER. SUGGEST WE ALSO KEEP PRESSURE ON ROC REP IN GENEVA AND INFORM HIM THAT AN ABSENTION IS SERIOUSLY BEING TAKEN UNDER ADVISEMENT.

4. BRAZZAVILLE EMBASSY OFFICE - SANDERS
MEECE